

MYCOBACTERIAL *RpoB* SEQUENCES**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

[0056] This invention provides polynucleotide probes, sequences and methods for speciating and phenotyping organisms, for example, using probes based on the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis rpoB* gene. The groups or species to which an organism belongs may be determined by comparing hybridization patterns of target nucleic acid from the organism to hybridization patterns in a database.